

Defining the Range of Alternatives for BDCP Draft EIR/EIS

June 15, 2010 –BECT Presentation

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Overview of Presentation

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- Identification of Initial Alternative Concepts
- Development and application of screening criteria
- Range of alternatives to be evaluated in detail in the BDCP Draft EIR/EIS

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Identification of Initial Alternative Concepts

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- Concepts in the Notice of Preparation and Notice of Intent
- Concepts identified during Scoping Process
 - Over 1,051 comments related to alternatives
 - Requests to include concepts described in 2007 and 2008 reports by Public Policy Institute of California
 - Request to include concepts presented to the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force
- Concepts included in BDCP Steering Committee handouts over past four years

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All Initial Alternative Concepts include Three Components

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- Restoration Components
- Measures to Reduce Other Stressors Components
- Conveyance Components
 - Isolated Conveyance
 - Dual Conveyance
 - Through Delta Conveyance

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Isolated Conveyance Concepts

- Central Delta Pipeline **DRAFT**
- Eastern Unlined and Lined Canal
- Eastern Unlined Canal plus connection to San Joaquin River near Mossdale
- Eastern Unlined Canal plus connection to EBMUD and SFPUC
- Western Unlined and Lined Canal
- Western Unlined Canal plus use of Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel
- Eastern Foothill Unlined Canal from Sacramento River near Verona

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Dual Conveyance Concepts

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- Central Delta Pipeline/Tunnel
- Eastern Unlined and Lined Canal
- Eastern Unlined Canal plus connection to San Joaquin River near Mossdale
- Western Unlined and Lined Canal
- Western Unlined Canal plus use of Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel
- Eastern Foothill Unlined Canal from Sacramento River near Verona

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Through Delta Conveyance Concepts

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- Continued use of existing water supply systems
 - Levee armoring and new setback levees along South Fork Mokelumne and Middle rivers and Victoria Canal
 - ~~Minimal or no maintenance to mManage~~ Delta for habitat, not local or SWP/CVP water supplies
- Separate Corridors
 - Water supply corridor along Mokelumne and Middle rivers and fish movement corridor along Old River
- Use of existing water supply systems with Delta salt water barrier installed near Benicia Bridge

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Multiple-Step Screening Criteria Process

- First and Second Screening Levels
 - Defining alternatives under CEQA and NEPA
- Third Screening Level
 - Defining “potentially feasible alternatives” under CEQA and “reasonable alternatives” under NEPA
- Consideration of Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act requirements
- ~~Consideration of alternative concepts identified during scoping by CEQA responsible agencies and NEPA cooperating agencies raised during scoping~~

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First and Second Screening Levels

- First Screening Level
 - Could the potential **DRAFT** alternative concept meet the Purpose Statements projects purpose/objectives in Notice of Preparation and Notice of Intent?
- Second Screening Level
 - Under CEQA, consider: Would the potential alternative avoid or substantially lessen any of the expected significant environmental effects of the proposed project?
 - Under NEPA, consider: Would the potential alternative address one or more significant issues related to the proposed action?

~~Does not need to comply with both CEQA and NEPA~~

Third Screening Level

- Could the potential alternative concept be “feasible” under CEQA? **DRAFT**
 - Capable of being accomplished in reasonable time period taking into account economic, legal, social, and technological factors?
- Could the potential alternative concept be “reasonable” under NEPA?
 - Practical or feasible from technical or economic standpoint?

CEQA and NEPA allows consideration of a reasonable balance of environmental, economic, social, and technical factors and legal feasibility under species protection laws and other laws

Consideration of Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act

- Do alternatives provide a reasonable range of:
 - Flow criteria? Diversion rates?
 - Other operational criteria to satisfy the criteria of approval as a Natural Community Conservation Plan?
 - Hydrologic conditions?
- Does the range of alternatives include a:
 - Through Delta Conveyance alternative?
 - Dual Conveyance alternative?
 - Isolated Conveyance alternative?
 - Dual or Isolated Conveyance – Lined Canal alternative?
 - Dual or Isolated Conveyance – Unlined Canal alternative?
 - Pipeline/Tunnel Conveyance alternative?

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Consideration of Responsible/Cooperating Agencies Scoping Comments

- Does range of alternatives include:
 - Broad range of water quality objectives and operational strategies?
 - Potential interim changes to SWRCB Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan?
 - Long-term changes to SWRCB Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan with and without new conveyance facilities?
 - Reduced diversions lower than diversions allowed in USFWS and NMFS biological opinions to assure continued existence of the species and some level of rehabilitation for estuary?
 - Delta outflows, and potentially inflows, that reflect a more natural hydrograph than current SWRCB Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan?

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Development of Range of Alternatives to be Evaluated in Detail in Draft EIR/EIS

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- Applied the screening criteria to the range of alternative concepts to identify the alternatives for Draft EIR/EIS
- All alternatives in Draft EIR/EIS address conveyance, capacity, operations, restoration, and other stressors components

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Array of Alternatives to be Evaluated in Detail in Draft EIR of June 15, 2010

Move to become 3rd column

| ALTERNATIVE | NORTH DELTA DIVERSION CAPACITY (cfs) | OPERATIONAL CRITERIA | RESTORATION AND OTHER STRESSORS |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Alternative 1 – Dual Conveyance | 15,000 | Pipeline/Tunnel | Per BDCP Proposed Project (2/11/10 BDCP Handout) |
| | | East Unlined | |
| | | East Lined | |
| | | West Unlined | |
| | | West Lined | |
| Alternative 2 – Dual Conveyance | 6,000 | Pipeline/Tunnel | Same as Alternative 1 |
| Alternative 3 – Isolated Conveyance | 15,000 | Pipeline/Tunnel | Similar to Alternative 1 with Fall X2 |
| | | East Unlined | |
| | | East Lined | |
| | | West Unlined | |
| | | West Lined | |
| Alternative 4 – Dual Conveyance: Enhanced Aquatic Conservation | 12,000 To be Determined | Pipeline/Tunnel | Modified from Alternative 1 |
| Alternative 5 – Through Delta Conveyance: Separate Corridors | 15,000 | Through Delta Channel Modifications | Modified from Alternative 1 |

This array of alternatives is preliminary and subject to change based upon information developed/reviewed during impact assessment

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